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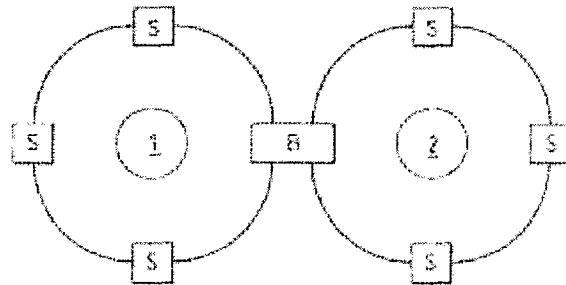
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**Abstract of GB 2171880 (A)**

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A local area network (LAN) consists of two closed ring sub-networks, interconnected by a bridge node. Thus the arrangement is extended in that the two rings interconnected by the bridge node use different bit rates and also different message protocols. Thus bit rate and format conversion is provided in the bridge node. Both rings use token ring techniques.



*Fig. 1.*